

SWAP SHOP



The size and logistics involved with heavy weapons—the M2 .50 HB machinegun and the Mk 19 automatic grenade launcher—often pose a problem for planners incorporating them into an air assault. And putting them into action quickly can bring decisive firepower that allows the assault element to get its foot in the door and put its organic weapons in the fight.

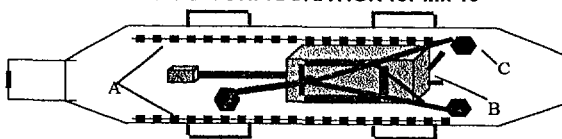
We developed one technique that packages the ammunition with the weapon and allows for rapid employment. We modified the SKEDCO litter, adding “fastek” clips like those used on assault packs in place of the buckles that secure casualties, and two CGU-1Bs to the sides. With the modification, we now place the com-

plete weapon on the SKEDCO upside down with tripod attached and ammunition configured as shown.

Although a four-man antitank section can employ the weapon, a six-man section should be tasked to do it. This provides the manpower, leadership, security, and replacements needed in case of casualties.

On a UH-60, the section exits from one side. The first two men grab the pull rope on their way out while the rest feed the package out the door. On the ground, the section moves to its designated support-by-fire position, between 25 and 100 meters, and engages the targets the fire plan has designated.

SKEDCO CONFIGURATION for Mk 19



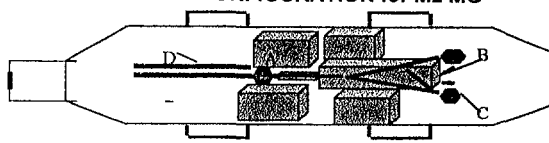
EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS AND WEIGHTS

- A 2 x 80-round belts = 156 lbs
- B Mk 19 & Mk 64 cradle
- C Tripod and T & E 141 lbs

Section leader carries: PLGR, Mk II/MELIOS, SINGGARS, GCP, M-4.

Crew members carry individual weapon, LSA, ANTVS-5, CLS bag/poleless litter.

SKEDCO CONFIGURATION for M2 MG



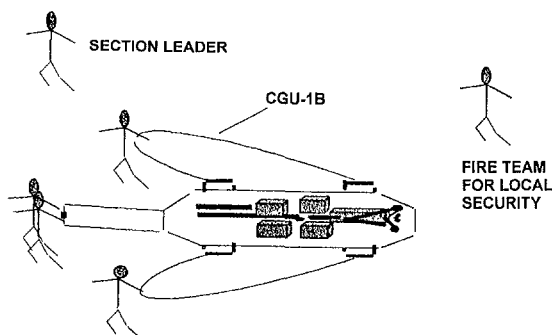
EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS AND WEIGHTS

- A 4 x 100-round ammo cans = 152 lbs.
- B Upper receiver and barrel
- C Tripod and T & E 154 lbs
- D Spare barrel = 28 lbs.

Section leader carries: PLGR, Mk II/MELIOS, SINGGARS, GCP, M-4.

Crew members carry individual weapon, LSA, ANTVS-5, CLS bag/poleless litter.

PULL CONFIGURATION



(Submitted by First Lieutenant Robert Thompson, 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry, Fort Campbell, Kentucky.)